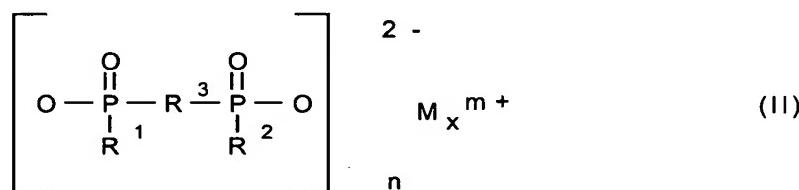
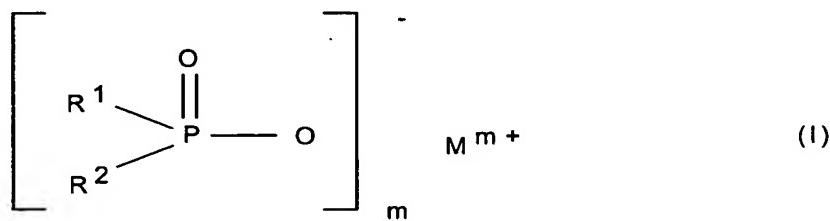


Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A flame retardant-nanofiller combination for a thermoplastic polymers, which comprises polymer comprising, as component A, a phosphinic salt of the formula (I), and/or a diphosphinic salt of the formula (II) and/or polymers of thesea polymer of a phosphinic salt of the formula (I), a polymer of a diphosphinic salt of the formula (II) or mixtures thereof,



where

R^1, R^2 are identical or different and are $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ -alkyl, linear or branched, and/or or aryl;

R^3 is $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ -alkylene, linear or branched, $\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{10}$ -arylene, -alkylarylene or -arylalkylene;

M is Al, Sb, Sn, Ge, Ti, Zn, Fe, Zr, Ce, Bi and/or or Mn;

m is 1 to 4;

n is 1 to 4;

x is 1 to 4,

and comprises, as at least one of component B and component C, wherein component B, is selected from the group consisting of condensation products of melamine, and/or reaction products of melamine with phosphoric acid or polyphosphoric acid, and/or comprises reaction products of condensation products of melamine with phosphoric acid or polyphosphoric acid, and/or comprises a mixture of these, and/or comprises, as and mixtures thereof, wherein component C, is selected from the group consisting of organic intercalated phyllosilicates, a nanospherical oxides, or and carbon nanotubes.

2. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant-nanofiller combination as claimed in claim 1, wherein R¹ and R² are identical or different and are C₁-C₆-alkyl, linear or branched, and/or phenyl.
3. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant-nanofiller combination as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein R¹ and R² are identical or different and are methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, tert-butyl, n-pentyl and/or phenyl.
4. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant-nanofiller combination as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein R³ is methylene, ethylene, n-propylene, isopropylene, n-butylene, tert-butylene, n-pentylene, n-octylene, or n-dodecylene; phenylene, or naphthylene; methylphenylene, ethylphenylene, tert-butylphenylene, methylnaphthylene, ethylnaphthylene, or tert-butylnaphthylene; phenylmethylene, phenylethylene, phenylpropylene, or phenylbutylene.
5. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant-nanofiller combination as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, wherein M is calcium ions, aluminum ions, or zinc ions.
6. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant-nanofiller combination as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, wherein component B comprises is the condensation products of melamine.

7. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant-nanofiller combination as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 6~~claim 6, wherein the condensation products of melamine comprise ~~are selected from the group consisting of~~ melem, melam, melon and/or compounds thereof having higher condensation levels.

8. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant-nanofiller combination as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 7~~claim 1, wherein component B ~~comprises~~is the reaction products of melamine with polyphosphoric acid, ~~and/or comprises~~the reaction products of condensation products of melamine with polyphosphoric acid, or ~~comprises~~a mixture thereof.

9. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant-nanofiller combination as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 8~~claim 1, wherein ~~the reaction products~~ ~~comprise~~component B is selected from the group consisting of dimelamine pyrophosphate, melamine polyphosphate, melem polyphosphate, melam polyphosphate, melon polyphosphate, ~~and/or mixed polysalts of this type~~thereof and mixtures thereof.

10. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant-nanofiller combination as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 9~~claim 1, wherein component B comprises melamine polyphosphate.

11. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant-nanofiller combination as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 10~~claim 1, wherein the organic intercalated phyllosilicates comprise materials for which the starting materials are swellable smectites, ~~such as montmorillonite, hectorite, saponite, or beidellite.~~

12. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant-nanofiller combination as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 10~~claim 1, wherein the organic intercalated phyllosilicates have been intercalated using quaternary ammonium compounds, protonated

amines, organic phosphonium ions, and/or aminocarboxylic acids, and mixtures thereof.

13. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant ~~plastics~~ plastic molding composition which comprisescomprising a flame retardant-nanofiller combination as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 12~~claim 1.

14. (Currently Amended) The flame-retardant ~~plastics~~ plastic molding composition as claimed in claim 13, wherein the plastic comprises ~~is a thermoplastic polymers of the type represented by~~ polymer selected from the group consisting of HI (high-impact) polystyrene, polyphenylene ethers, polyamides, polyesters, polycarbonates, and blends or polyblends of the type represented by ABS (acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene), or PC/ABS (polycarbonate/acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene), or PPE/HIPS (polyphenylene ether/HI polystyrene) plastics.

15. (Currently Amended) The flame-retardant ~~plastics~~ plastic molding composition as claimed in claim 13~~or~~14, wherein the plastic comprises ~~is selected from the group consisting of~~ polyamides, polyesters and PPE/HIPS blends.

16. (Currently Amended) The flame-retardant ~~plastics~~ plastic molding composition as claimed in one or more of claims 13~~to~~15, wherein ~~the amount used of component A is present from 2 to 20% by weight, the amount used of component B is from 1 to 30% by weight, and the amount used of component C is from 0.05 to 20%~~ based on the ~~plastics~~ plastic molding composition.

17. (Currently Amended) The flame-retardant ~~plastics~~ plastic molding composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 13 to 16~~claim 13, wherein ~~the amount used of component A is present from 5 to 10% by weight, the amount used of component B is from 5 to 10% by weight, and the amount used of component C is from 0.05 to 10%~~ based on the ~~plastics~~ plastic molding composition.

18. (Currently Amended) The flame-retardant ~~plastics~~ plastic molding composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 13 to 15~~ claim 13, wherein the amount used of component A is present from 2 to 20% by weight and the amount used of component C is from 0.05 to 5% by weight, based on the ~~plastics~~ plastic molding composition.

19. (Currently Amended) A polymeric article comprising ~~polymer molding, a polymer film, a polymer filament, or a polymer fiber which comprises~~ a flame retardant-nanofiller combination as claimed in ~~one or more claims 1 to 12~~ claim 1, wherein the polymeric article is selected from the group consisting of a polymer molding, film, filament and fiber.

20. (Currently Amended) The ~~polymer molding, polymer film, polymer filament, or polymer fiber~~ polymeric article as claimed in claim 19, wherein the polymer comprises HI (high-impact) polystyrene, polyphenylene ethers, polyamides, polyesters, polycarbonates, and blends or polyblends of the type represented by ABS (acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene), or PC/ABS (polycarbonate/acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene).

21. (Currently Amended) The ~~polymer molding, polymer film, polymer filament, or polymer fiber~~ polymeric article as claimed in claim 19 or 20, wherein the amount of component A is present is from 2 to 20% by weight, the amount of component B present is from 1 to 30% by weight, and the amount of component C present is from 0.5 to 20% by weight, based on the polymer content.

22. (Currently Amended) The ~~polymer molding, polymer film, polymer filament, or polymer fiber~~ polymeric article as claimed in claim 19 or 20, wherein the amount of component A is present is from 5 to 10% by weight, the amount of component B present is from 5 to 10% by weight, and the amount of component C present is from 0.5 to 10% by weight, based on the polymer content.

23. (Currently Amended) The ~~polymer molding, polymer film, polymer filament, or polymer fiber~~
polymeric article as claimed in claim 19 or 20, wherein the amount of component A is present is from 2 to 20% by weight and the amount of component C present is from 0.5 to 5% by weight, based on the polymer content.

24. (New) The flame retardant-nanofiller combination as claimed in claim 11, wherein the swellable smectites are selected from the group consisting of montmorillonite, hectorite, saponite or beidellite.